



CHERIE K. BERRY  
Commissioner

RICARDO CRUZ-SEGARRA  
District Supervisor  
Division of Occupational Safety and Health

June 3, 2008

VIA FACSIMILE (828) 438-6339

Mr. William Brown, Safety Director  
Broughton Hospital  
N.C. Dept. of Health & Human Services  
1000 South Sterling Street  
Morganton, NC 28655

Re: OSH Complaint No. 206153488

Dear Mr. Brown:

Recently the Compliance Bureau of the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the North Carolina Department of Labor received a complaint concerning alleged health and/or safety hazards at your facility located at 1000 South Sterling Street in Morganton, N.C. The specific nature of the complaint is described in detail on the attached page.

We have not determined whether the hazard(s) as alleged exist at your workplace, and we are not conducting an inspection at this time. However, since allegations of violations have been made, you should investigate the alleged conditions and make any necessary corrections or modifications. Within 7 calendar days of your receipt of this letter, please advise us in writing of your findings and of the action(s) you have taken. Your response should be detailed stating specifically what action(s) you have taken to correct each hazard. You should enclose any supporting documentation, such as monitory results, ordering of equipment, photographs, and the like.

The complainant has been advised of this preliminary response to the complaint and furnished a copy of this letter. You should be aware that North Carolina General Statute §95-241 provides that "no person shall discriminate or take any retaliatory action against an employee because the employee in good faith does or threatens to file a claim or complaint, initiate any inquiry, investigation, inspection, proceeding or other action, or testify or provide information to any person with respect to..." the Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina.

Page 2

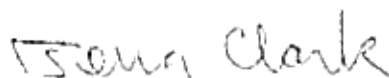
This letter is not a citation nor is it a notification of proposed penalty which, according to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, may be issued only after an inspection or investigation of the workplace. If we do not receive a response from you within 7 calendar days indicating that appropriate action has been taken or that no hazard exists and why, an inspection may be conducted.

You are requested to post a copy of this letter and your response to it where it will be readily accessible for review by your employees. Please address your response to the following:

Ricardo Cruz-Segarra, District Supervisor  
N.C. Department of Labor  
Division of Occupational Safety & Health  
204 Charlotte Highway, Suite B  
Asheville, NC 28803

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Tena Clark at (828) 299-8232. Your personal support and interest in the safety and health of your employees is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Tena Clark  
Office Assistant IV

Attachment

Page 3

Listed below is/are the alleged violation(s). Answer each complaint item separately.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description of Alleged Violation</u>
1.	Employees are working understaffed, thereby creating a hostile working environment while dealing with mentally unstable and violent patients. Employees have been physically assaulted by patients due to the understaffing.